

### REMARKS

Applicants have incorporated the limitation of claim 8 into claim 1 and cancelled claim 8. Applicants have also added new claims 13 and 14. New claim 13 includes the limitations of original claims 1 and 2. New claim 14 includes the limitations of original claims 1, 9, and 11. No new matter has been introduced by the above amendments.

Upon entry of the proposed amendments, claims 1-7, 9, 11, 13, and 14 will be pending and under examination. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

### Rejections

The Examiner rejects claims 1 and 3-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jester et al., US 5,529,740 (Jester) and rejects claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over the same reference. Independent claim 1 will be discussed first.

Claim 1, as amended, covers a mold product containing a liquid crystal polymer having an orientation degree between 0.71 and 0.91.

Jester discloses a film prepared by molding a liquid crystal polymer. In the thus-prepared film, the orientation degree of the polymer is between 0.65 and 0.69. Nowhere in this reference is it taught or suggested that the polymer have the orientation degree between 0.71 and 0.91, as required by claim 1. Thus, claim 1 is novel and non-obvious over Jester.

Note that amended claim 1 is identical in scope to original claim 8, now cancelled. According to the Examiner, original claim 8 "would be allowable if rewritten in independent form." See the Office Action, page 3, last paragraph. Amended claim 1, equivalent to claim 8 in independent form, is in condition for allowance.

Claims 3-7 all depend from claim 1. They are patentable over Jester for the same reasons that claim 1 is patentable.

Allowable subject matter

The Examiner acknowledges that claims 2 and 8-12 cover allowable subject matter. On the other hand, he objects to these claims on the ground that they depend from a rejected base claim and asserts that he would allow them if rewritten in independent form. See the Office Action, page 3, last paragraph. Of note, claims 8, 10, and 12 have been cancelled to avoid duplication.

As mentioned above, amended claim 1, equivalent to original claim 8 in independent form, is in condition for allowance.

New claim 13 includes all of the limitations required by original claim 2. New claim 14 includes all of the limitations required by original claims 9 and 11. Both new claims, in independent form, are also in condition for allowance since they are equivalent to original claim 2 and original claims 9 and 11, which, as admitted by the Examiner, cover allowable subject matter.

Turing to claims 9 and 11, these two claims correspond to cancelled claims 10 and 12, respectively, as a result of the amendment to their base claim (i.e., claim 1). As their base claim is allowable for the reasons set forth above, these two claims are also in condition for allowance.

Finally, Applicants would like to point out that, due to the amendment to claim 1, current claim 2 has a different scope than that of original claim 2. Yet, for the reasons that claim 1 is patentable over the cited prior art, current claim 2, dependent from claim 1, is also patentable. In other words, current claim 2 is also in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, Applicants submit that the grounds for the objections and rejections asserted by the Examiner have been overcome and claims 1-7, 9, 11, 13, and 14, as pending, cover subject matter that is novel and unobvious over the prior art. Applicants request that all pending claims be allowed.

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Respectfully submitted,

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